



State of California-Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Services**



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

April 22, 2005

CHDP Program Letter No.: 05-05

TO: ALL COUNTY CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PREVENTION (CHDP)  
PROGRAM DIRECTORS, DEPUTY DIRECTORS, DENTAL  
CONSULTANTS, STATE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES (CMS)  
BRANCH AND REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF

SUBJECT: CHDP PROVIDER INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 05-05 EARLY  
CHILDHOOD ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROJECT  
ENTITLED, "FIRST SMILES: DENTAL HEALTH BEGINS AT BIRTH"  
SUPPORTED BY FIRST 5 CALIFORNIA

Enclosed is the CHDP Provider Information Notice No.: 05-05 announcing the availability of continuing medical education for CHDP providers on preventive oral health services for young children. The purpose of the Notice is to inform providers of a new statewide Early Childhood Oral Health Education and Training Project entitled "First Smiles: Dental Health Begins at Birth" supported by First 5 California. The First 5 California Early Childhood Oral Health Initiative has the goal of significantly reducing the incidence of dental decay in children from birth to five years of age, including children with special needs.

The Early Childhood Oral Health and Education Training Project emphasizes the essential role that medical providers play in reaching the majority of children 0-5 years of age and their families for early oral health assessments, preventive services, and improved oral health. Consistent with the CHDP recommendation for a dental referral at age one (Provider Information Notice No.: 04-13, June 18, 2004), the Project encourages dental referral by age one and earlier when any dental carious lesion, infection, or pathology is observed.

Training programs are scheduled throughout the State, regionally and by counties. Project staff may contact you to request a copy of your most current dental provider referral list to duplicate for distribution to the medical providers in the Project participant packet (If your dental provider referral list is in house for CHDP staff only you may choose not to provide the list). In addition, when possible, you are encouraged to offer assistance in the conduct of the local continuing medical education training in your County. This might include assistance in locating a venue, providing some assistance at the course itself, promotion through local newsletters, etc. Local dental societies will also offer trainings for dental and medical providers. Your county CHDP program may choose to arrange and facilitate a training session. Trainers will come to your local area or region to present the program. A training program can be planned by contacting the Project at their website, [www.First5OralHealth.org](http://www.First5OralHealth.org) or one of the Project coordinators listed on the Provider Information Notice. The Project website will also list the next training planned for your area.

Please review and distribute this Provider Information Notice, without any changes, to providers in your local program area and complete and return the enclosed "Report of Distribution."

If you have questions, please contact your Regional Nursing Consultant.

**Original signed by Marian Dalsey, M.D., M.P.H.**

Marian Dalsey, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Chief  
Children's Medical Services Branch

Enclosure